

From: Zimran Ahmed
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To: Renata B. Hesse
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Microsoft's current corporate licensing practices continue to display the predatory maintenance of monopoly the DoJ trial was supposed to suspend. In their new license 6.0,

<http://www.microsoft.com/licensing/>

Microsoft offers deep discounts to customers who agree to never use or consider a competitors profits. This offer is against the backdrop of a 25%-100%+ increase in software licensing prices.

This abuse of monopoly power to extend monopoly by keeping out competitors is **exactly** what is hampering innovation in the technology industry and what anti-trust law is supposed to address. Competitors should be allowed to create the best products they can and customers should be able to select whichever system they feel provides the best value. Price differentiation used to exclude competitors is a clear abuse and maintenance of monopoly power, and the fact that Microsoft is engaging in it even before the trial is concluded demonstrates how toothless the "settlement" is.

I would urge you to strike the current settlement and draft something which addresses Microsoft monopoly abuses in the past, in the present, and limits their ability to commit similar abuses in the future. Microsoft's disdain for the court is plain to see, and if the current "settlement" passes, I fear disdain for the DoJ will be far more widespread.

Sincerely,

Zimran Ahmed